

WELCOME
TO THE

NHK

TM



The existence of the vice organization is a mystery. All the reasons why I dropped out from the university, being unemployed and "Hikikomori" are all because of it. I'll keep fighting till the day I will beat the vice organization. But one day, an assassin named Misaki-chan appeared. A beautiful girl, Misaki-chan, with a parasol. Who is she? What can save our future? What is the truth about the vice organization? This is an ultimate non-stop Hikikomori Action Comic!

VIZ SELECT



Welcome to the N.H.K.

STORY : TATSUHIKO TAKIMOTO X KENDI OIWA : COMIC

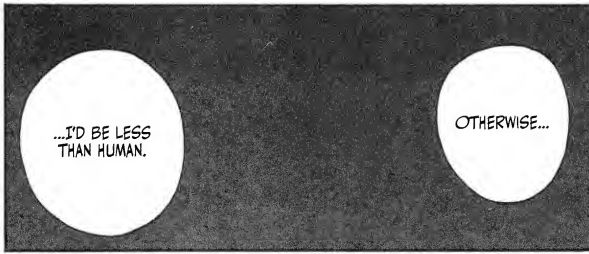
08



I HAVE TO
THANK
YOU.



THANK YOU
FOR LETTING
ME USE
YOU IN MY
PROJECT.



...I'D BE LESS
THAN HUMAN.

OTHERWISE...



NHK  **ようこそ!**
Welcome to the N.H.K.

■ 滝本竜彦 × ■ 大岩ケンヂ

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Welcome to the N.H.K.

08



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Welcome to the N.H.K.

VOLUME 8

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Welcome to the N.H.K. Vol. 8

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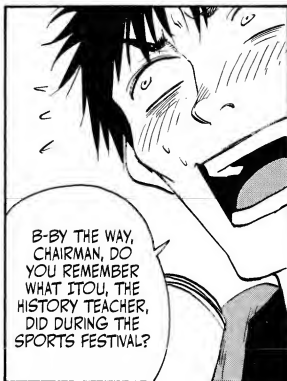
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B-BY THE WAY,
CHAIRMAN, DO
YOU REMEMBER
WHAT ITOU, THE
HISTORY TEACHER,
DID DURING THE
SPORTS FESTIVAL?



BUT DO YOU
KNOW...I'VE
NEVER EVEN
GONE OUT
WITH ANYONE.



YEAH...HA
HA HA. BUT
DOESN'T IT
SORT OF
MAKE YOU
SAD TO
THINK ABOUT
IT TOO?

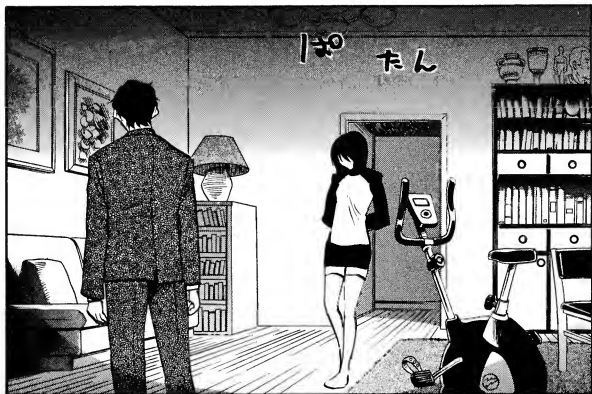


YEAH, YEAH.
AND EVERYONE
BURST OUT
LAUGHING! MAN,
I THOUGHT
MY SIDES
WERE GONNA
SPLIT--IT WAS
SO FUNNY!



YEAH, HIS
TOUPEE!
THE WIND
BLEW IT
RIGHT OFF!







* A BUDDHIST BELIEF THAT YOU CAN INCREASE YOUR MEMORY BY BELIEVING IN THE BODHISATVA OF THE KOKUUZOU. KOUBOU DAISHI MASTERED IT AT AGE 19.



TELL ME.
WHAT IS
HAPPINESS?



Hyuck
Hyuck

AND BECAUSE I'M
TOO SCARED TO
GO OUTSIDE,
I'VE GOT A DRUG
THAT'LL BLOW
ME OUT OF THE
ATMOSPHERE!

WE'LL CALL
UP ALL THE
PEOPLE WE
KNOW AND
HAVE THEM
COME OVER!



HELLO,
YAMAZAKI?
LISTEN UP.



G
U
L
P!



THAT'S IT!
LET'S HAVE
A PARTY!







...SO MUCH
SO THAT
EVERYTHING
I AM, MY
WEAKNESSES, MY
STRENGTH, MY
SADNESS AND
MY HAPPINESS,
IS ALL AN ACT.

I'VE LAYERED
LIES ON TOP
OF LIES...



ISN'T THERE
SOMETHING
BETTER THAN
THAT? WHY
DO YOU EVEN
WANT ME?

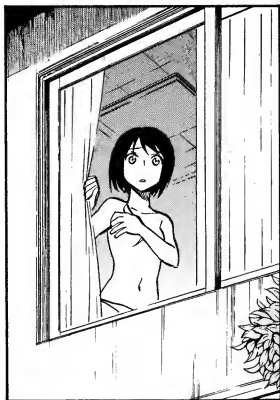
WHAT WOULD
HAPPEN IF I
FELL IN LOVE
AND FOUND
HAPPINESS?



I WON'T...
SATISFY YOU
AT ALL.



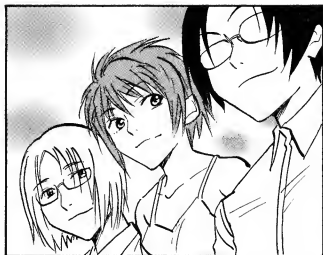
DOES
WANTING
ME SATISFY
YOU IN
SOME WAY?













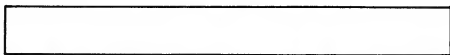




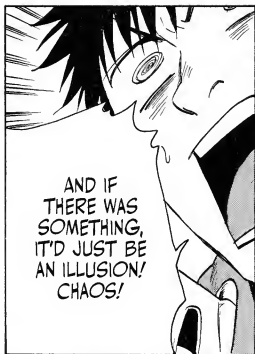
IT
DOESN'T
FREAKING
MATTER!



W-WHAT'S
IT EVEN
MATTER
WHAT THE
GOAL IS
ANYMORE?!



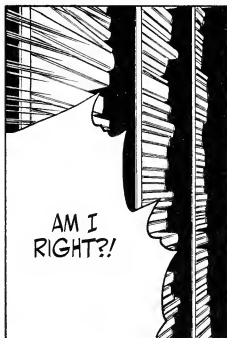
I DON'T
EVEN
FUCKING
KNOW
ANYMORE!



AND IF
THERE WAS
SOMETHING,
IT'D JUST BE
AN ILLUSION!
CHAOS!



THERE'S
NOTHING
HERE
ANYWAY!

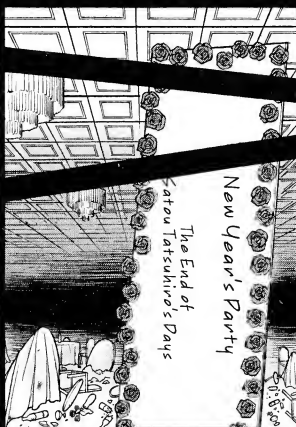


AM I
RIGHT?!



BUT WE
CAN'T JUST
ROLL OVER
AND DIE!







THAT'S
WHY I...

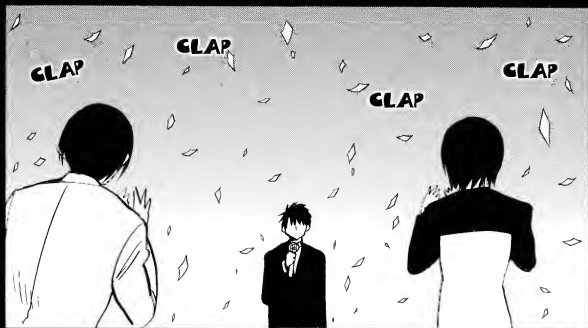
...HAVE NO
CHOICE BUT
TO FAKE IT.

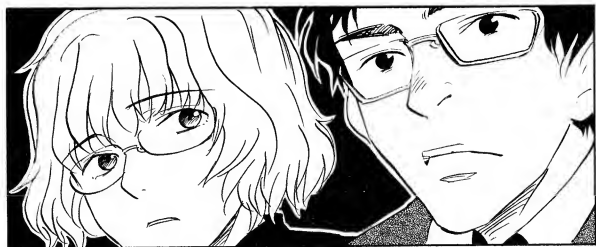


AND
THAT'S
WHY--



BUT I'M
RIGHT,
AREN'T I?





WHY DID
YOU LET
HER LEAVE
WITHOUT
DOING
ANYTHING?



...AND I
KNOW
WHAT MY
LIMITS
ARE.

I CAN'T
MAKE
THAT
GIRL
HAPPY.



YOU'VE
HELPED ME
GROW UP,
MEGUMI...

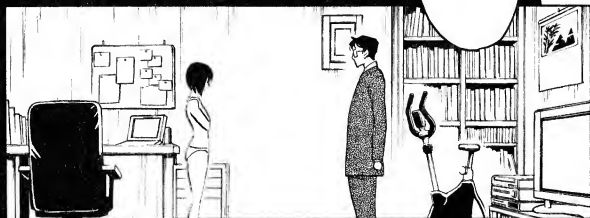


IF SO, I'M
SORRY THAT
I RUINED
YOUR
CHANCES.

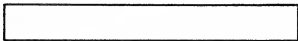


THAT'S NOT
WHAT I'M
TALKING
ABOUT.

DID YOU
HESITATE
BECAUSE I
WAS THERE?

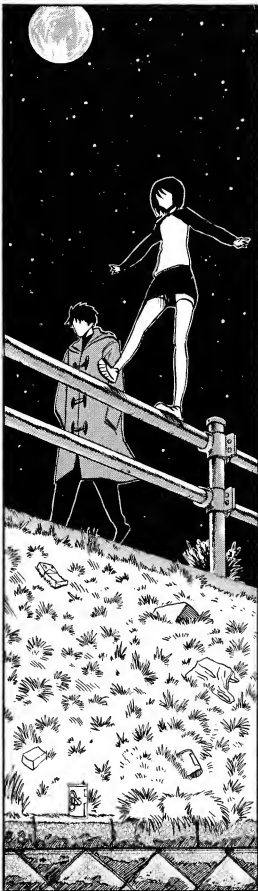














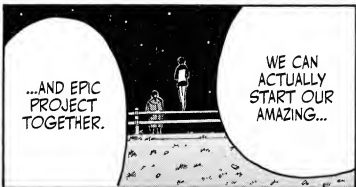
OOOH!

A Love Contract

Satou Tatsuhiro promises to



WE CAN
FINALLY
START
THIS NOW!



...AND EPIC
PROJECT
TOGETHER.

WE CAN
ACTUALLY
START OUR
AMAZING...

Welcome to the PARTY!

YEAH.



WelcometotheN.H.K.

#36 Welcome to the Party!

Continued in Episode #37

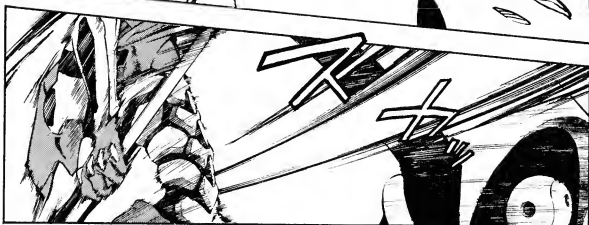
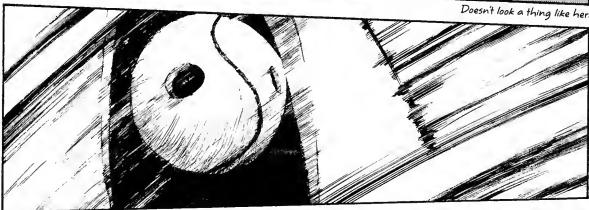


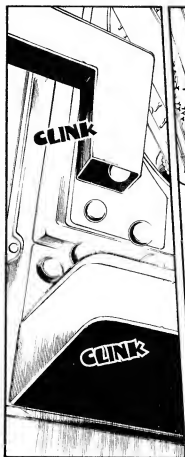


Chapter 37 Welcome to the 2nd IMPACT!



Doesn't look a thing like her.





SHE'S SO
FUCKIN'
USELESS!

GAAAH!
DAMN YOU,
ASUKA!



I WOULDN'T TALK
IF I WERE YOU.
REMEMBER, YOU
WERE THE ONE
WHO DRAGGED
ME OUT HERE AND
ASKED ME TO
HELP WITH YOUR
REVOLUTION OR
SOME CRAP!

AND WHAT DO
PACHINKO
PARLORS
HAVE TO DO
WITH YOUR
REVOLUTION
ANYWAY?!



WELL,
SATOU-SAN,
IT APPEARS
YOU'VE
USED UP ALL
THE MONEY
YOU HAVE.



TAKE A LOOK
AROUND YOU!
ANIME FIGURES
DECORATE
EVERY MACHINE
IN THIS PLACE!

CAN'T YOU
TELL?! **THIS**
IS OUR
ENEMY!



THAT'S WHY
WE HAVE
TO MAKE A
CHANGE IN
THESE DIRE
TIMES!

THIS
CALLS
FOR A
REVOLU-
TION!

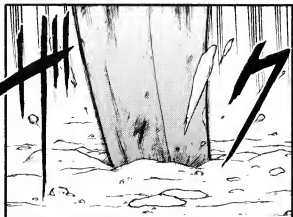


IT BECKONS
THE OTAKU
TO THE
SLAUGHTER!
AND NOT JUST
PACHINKO,
BUT ALL MEDIA
DOES IT!

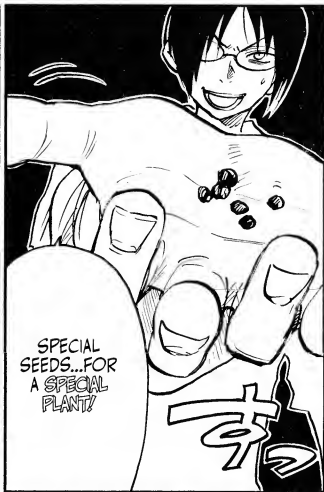
THESE IMAGES
STEAL US OF
OUR PRECIOUS
HUMANITY
LIKE DRUGS
DISSOLVING
OUR BRAIN!

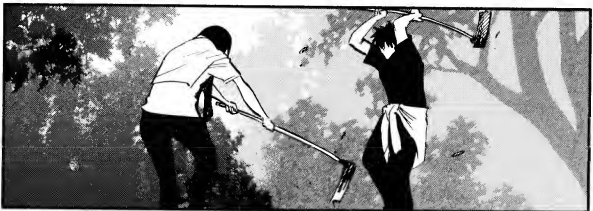


REVOLU-
TION?







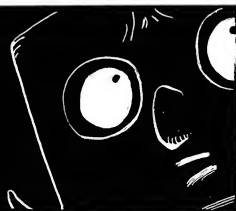




"BECAUSE YOU'RE SMART..."



"...YOU KNOW THE TRUTH, RIGHT?"

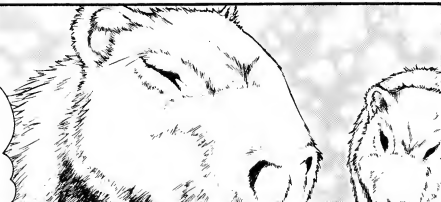




"NONE OF THIS WILL
AMOUNT TO ANYTHING."



OOOH!
♥



AREN'T
THEY
JUST THE
CUTEST
THING?



THOSE
KAPIBARA*
ARE SO
CUTE!

* A RODENT-LIKE ANIMAL LIVING IN THE AMAZON OF SOUTH AMERICA.





UM...WELL,
FIRST IS
THE ZOO...



STEP WHAT,
NOW? OH,
THAT LOVE
PROGRAM
AGAIN, RIGHT?

JUST
HOW MANY
STEPS
ARE THERE
TOTAL?



AND THIS
IS ALL
FOR YOU,
SATOU-KUN!

THE STEPS
MAY BE LONG,
BUT WHEN
WE MAKE IT
TO THE END
OF THE LIST
YOU'LL BE
IN HEAVEN!



...THEN A TRIP TO
THE AMUSEMENT
PARK AND
PLANETARIUM.
THEN WE'RE
GOING TO THE
BEACH. THEN
EXCHANGING
TEXT MESSAGES
AND DIARY
ENTRIES...

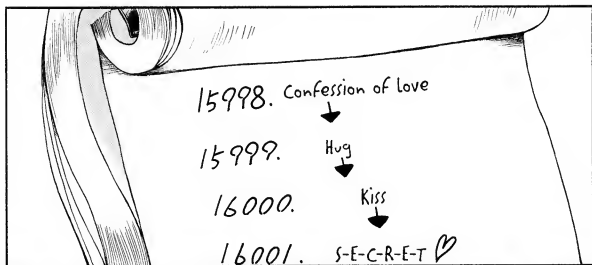
I THINK THERE
ARE ABOUT
10,000 STEPS.
IT TOOK ME
THREE NIGHTS
STRAIGHT TO
THINK THEM
ALL UP!



THE
END?

FWIP
FWIP

LET'S
SEE
HERE...





...WE TAKE
A LITTLE
SHORTCUT?

THEN,
WHAT
DO YOU
SAY...

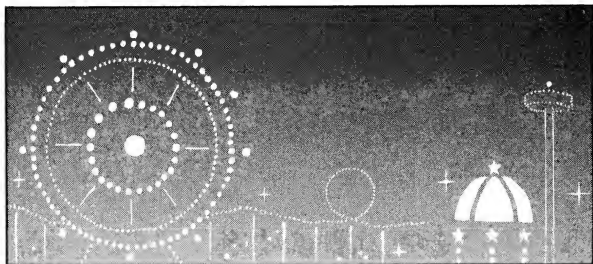


I DON'T
MIND.



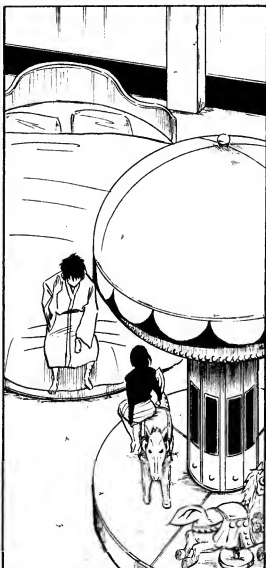
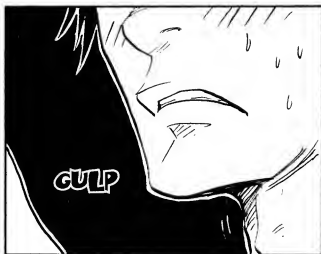
OR
SHOULD
I SAY...

...LET'S
SKIP
AHEAD TO
THE FINAL
STEP?

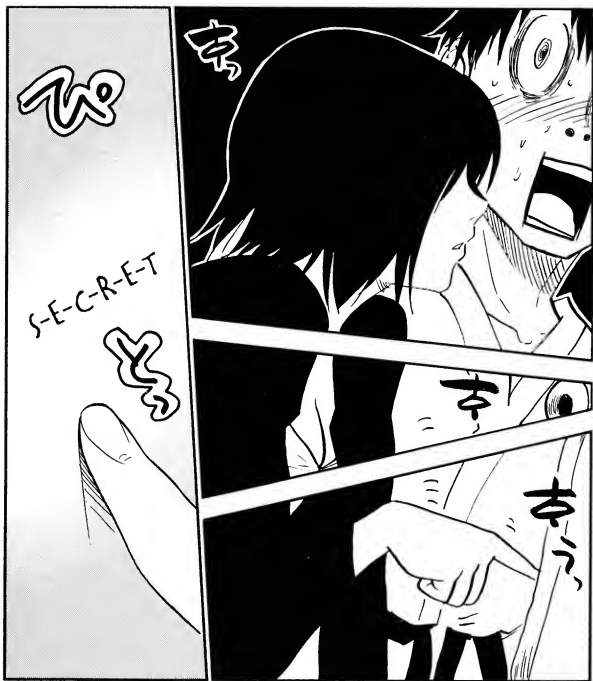


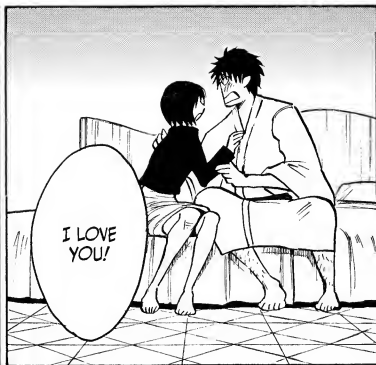
AREN'T YOU
SCARED,
SATOU-KUN?





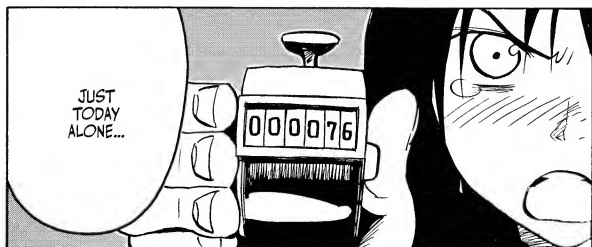












JUST
TODAY
ALONE...



...YOU'VE
LIED 76
TIMES.



EVERY KIND
WORD YOU
SAID WAS
A LIE!

WHY? WHAT
ARE YOU
PLANNING?!







HUG ME
THEN
KISS ME!



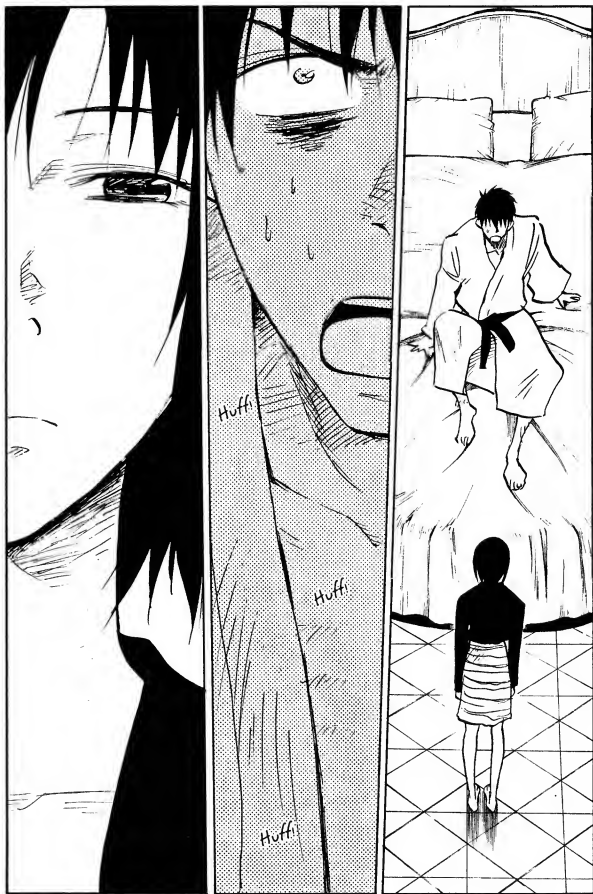
THEN
HUG ME.



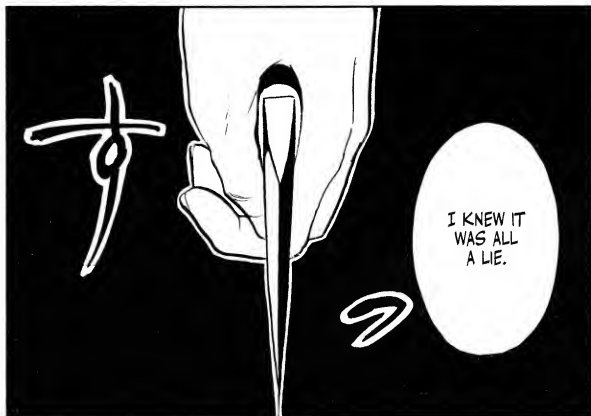
AND
AFTER
THAT...?

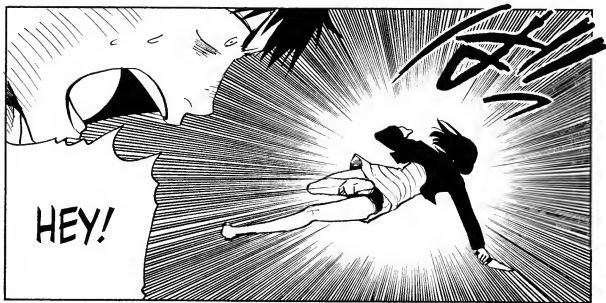


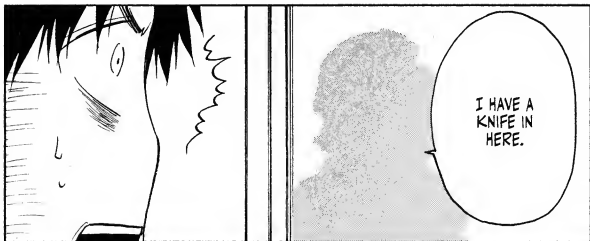
WHAT ABOUT
AFTER THAT?!

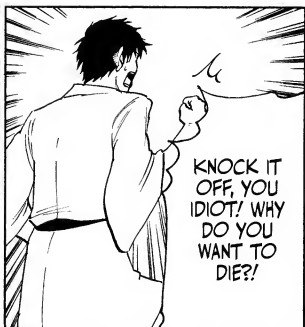














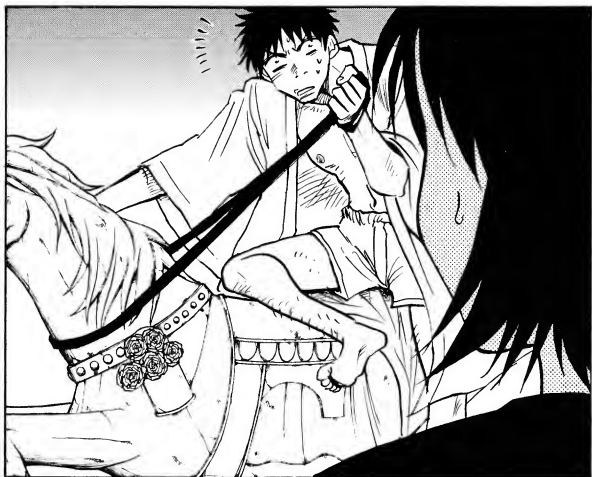
SAYS YOU!
JUST
WATCH ME!



PFFT! YEAH,
RIGHT! YOU
DON'T HAVE
THE *GUTS!*



OKAY!
I'VE GOT
A ROPE
AROUND
MY NECK!





Ha
ha
ha.



WHAT?!

LIKE YOU'RE
ONE TO TALK!
YOU THINK
YOU'RE THE GOD
OF DEATH OR
SOMETHING?
WHY ARE YOU
TRYING TO GET
ME KILLED?!



Y-YOU
BIG, FAT
LIAR!



BUT MY
HEART'S
GROWN
WEARY THESE
DAYS... I'M
GETTING
SO TIRED.



IT WAS
SUPPOSED
TO BE
MORE
ROMANTIC
THAN THIS!

NO!





Welcome to the 2nd IMPACT!



Welcome to the N.H.K.
#37 Welcome to the 2nd Impact!

Continued in Episode #38



I don't
know
what
to do
either!

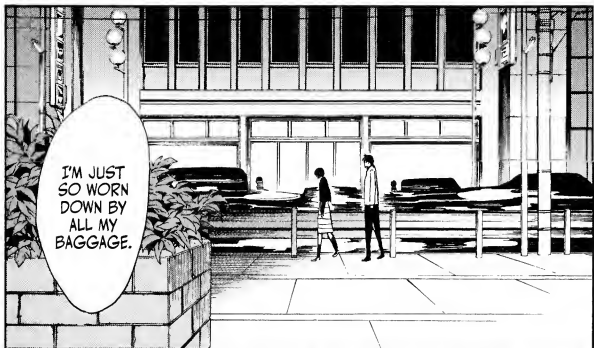
About my
future,
my life!
I'm gonna
cry too!

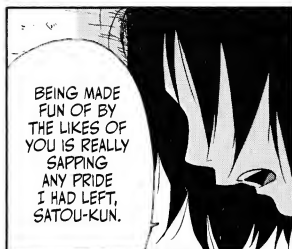


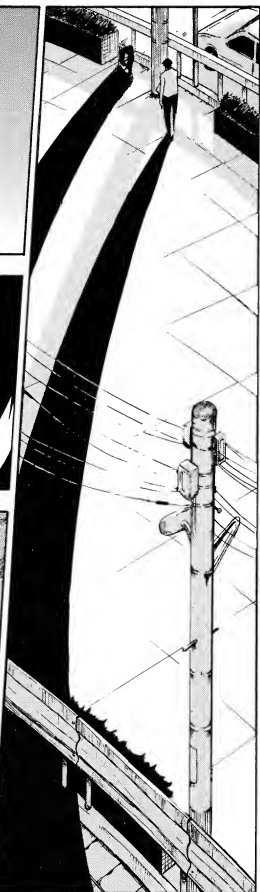
Boo-hoo.

Chapter 38 Welcome to the FLOWER OF REVOLUTION!









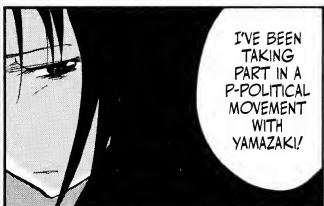


AND WE'RE
TOTALLY
SERIOUS
ABOUT
IT, OF
COURSE!

I'M
CONFIDENT
I CAN
REALLY
LOVE YOU
SOMEDAY,
MISAKI-
CHAN!



THE TRUTH
IS...LATELY
I'VE BEEN
FEELING
HOPEFUL.



I'VE BEEN
TAKING
PART IN A
P-POLITICAL
MOVEMENT
WITH
YAMAZAKI!

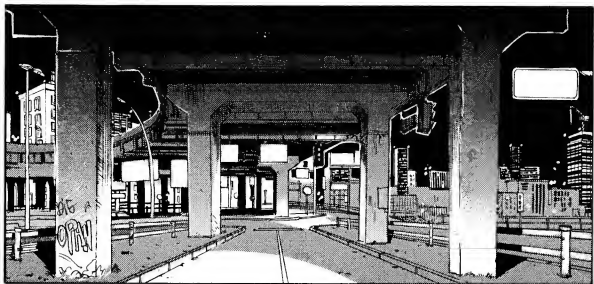


I'LL LET
YOU
CARRY
ME ON
YOUR
BACK.

IT'LL BE
EASIER TO
LOVE ME
WHEN I'M
SO CLOSE
TO YOU.



THEN GIVE
ME A PIGGY-
BACK RIDE.





YEAH, I
PROMISE
I'LL LOVE
YOU.



...BUT
LOVING
ME IS THE
BEST
THING FOR
YOU.



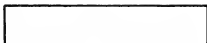
I-I'M DOING
THIS FOR
YOU,
SATOU-KUN.
I'M SURE
IT'S HARD ON
A COWARD
LIKE YOU...



N-NORMALLY,
IT'D BE A
PAIN FOR ME,
BUT I'LL PUT
UP WITH IT...
FOR YOU,
SATOU-KUN.

DON'T PUSH
YOURSELF
TOO HARD.
YOU CAN
JUST LOVE
ME HOWEVER
MUCH YOU
CAN MANAGE.





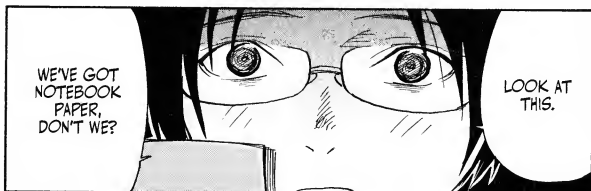
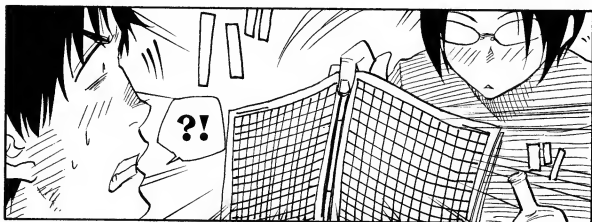
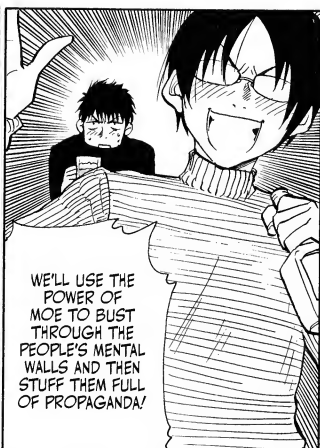


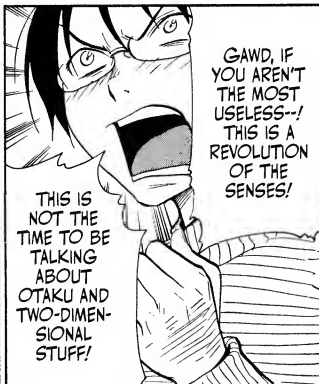
...AND COMBINE
ALL OF OUR
EFFORTS AND
FOCUS ON
WRITING THE
SCENARIO!

IN ANY CASE,
WE NEED
TO MAKE
ENOUGH
MONEY TO
GROW THESE
PLANTS...



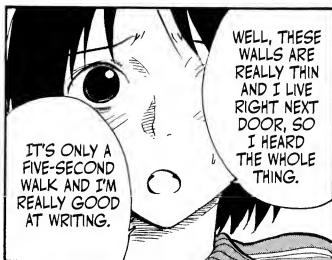
BUT...WE
DON'T HAVE
A COMPUTER.

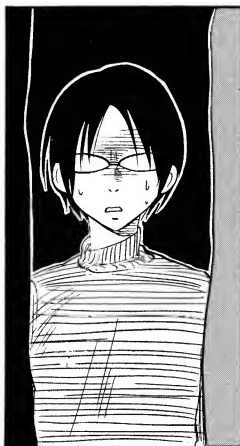














IT'S MY
DUTY
AS A
REVOLU-
TIONIST!

...WE'LL
ASSUME
THE RISK!



OOOOKAY.
ANYWAY...



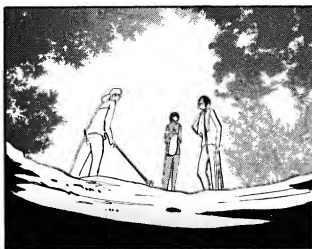
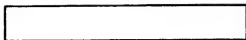
*You're the best
Misaki-chan!*



*It's time for an
awakening!*



*I really am
so kind!*



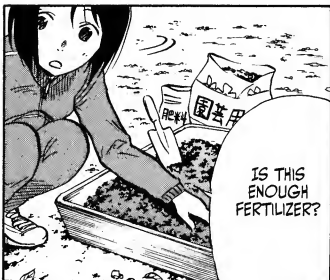


DON'T
TELL
MISAKI-
CHAN WHAT
THESE
PLANTS
REALLY ARE.



MAKE
SURE TO
PLANT
THEM IN
ROWS.

OKAY,
TIME TO
PLANT
THE
SEEDS!

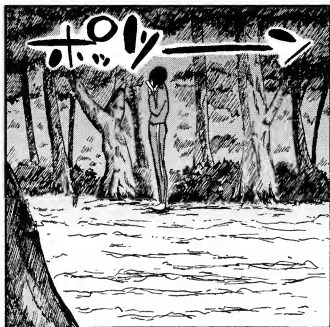


IS THIS
ENOUGH
FERTILIZER?



NOD

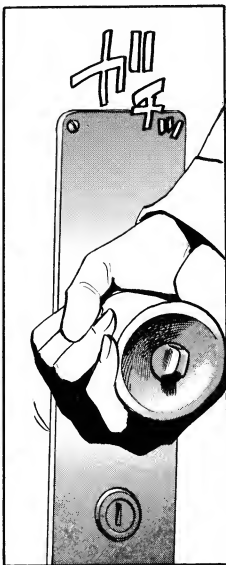
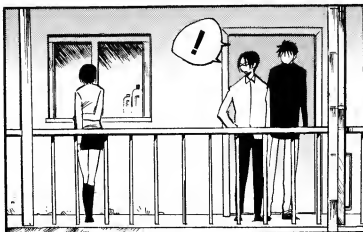
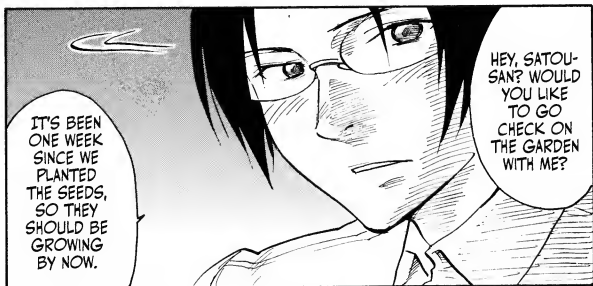
YEP. I DON'T
WANT TO
MAKE HER AN
ACCOMPLICE.





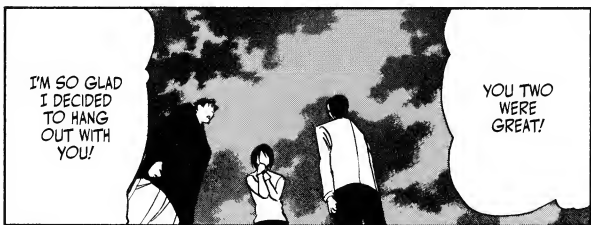


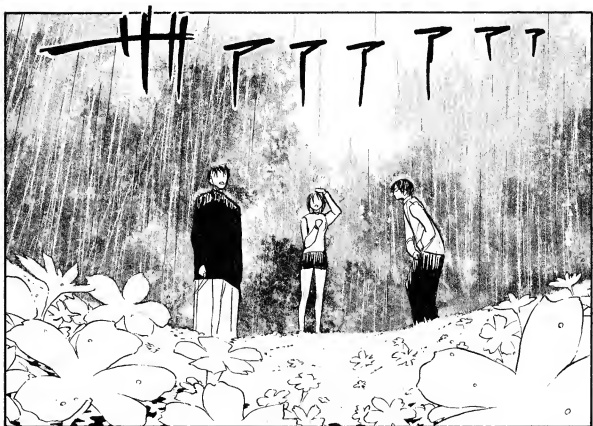










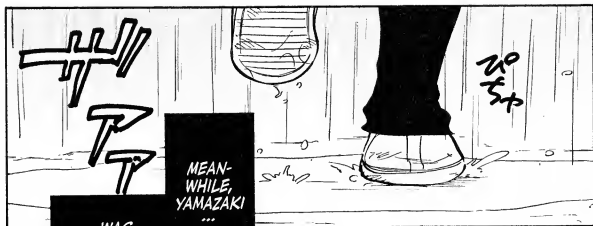




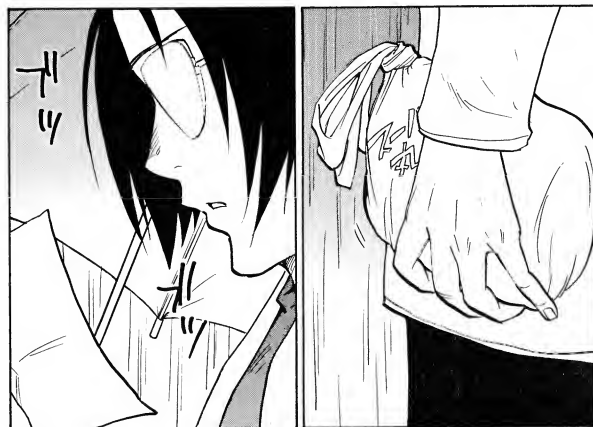
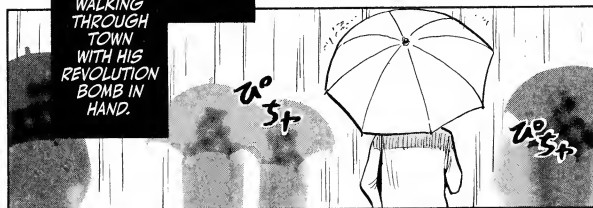
THE NEXT
DAY, TO
SHOW MISAKI
HOW MUCH
I LOVED
HER...

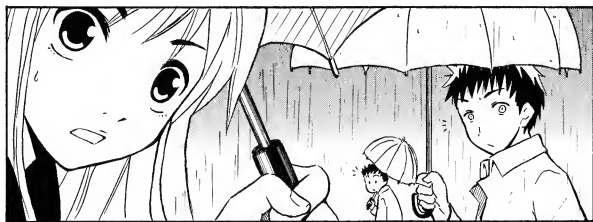
...I WENT
TO AN
INTERVIEW
FOR A PART-
TIME JOB.

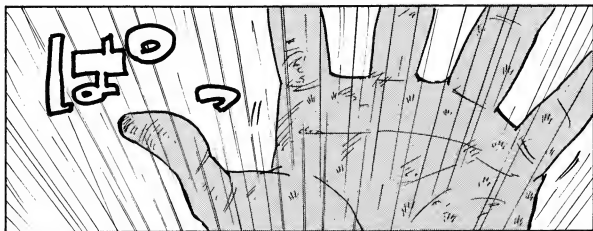
I WANTED
TO BUY HER
A GIFT WITH
MY FIRST
PAYCHECK.

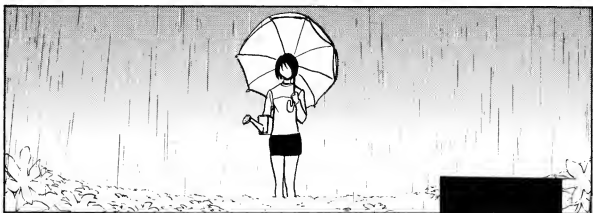
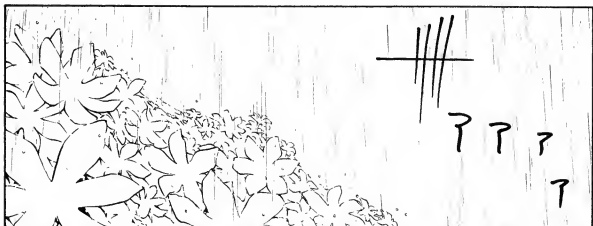


...WAS
WALKING
THROUGH
TOWN
WITH HIS
REVOLUTION
BOMB IN
HAND.









YAMAZAKI
WENT BACK
TO HIS
PARENTS'
HOUSE
SOON
AFTER.



MISAKI AND
I MOVED IN
TOGETHER
FOR
SEVERAL
WEEKS IN
ROOM 202.



THEN I MOVED INTO A NEW APARTMENT.

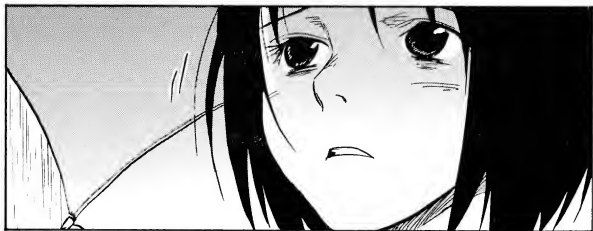


I WANT TO LOVE HER.

I WANTED TO LOVE HER.

BUT BEFORE MY VERY EYES...

...MY EMOTIONS DRIED UP AND DIED.





WelcometotheN.H.K.

#38 Welcome to the flower of Revolution!

Continued in Episode #39...



Dammit,
I knew
two hand
guns
wouldn't
cut it!

Defeat the
N.H.K.

Capt'n,
the
enemy's
equipped
with a
scorpion!

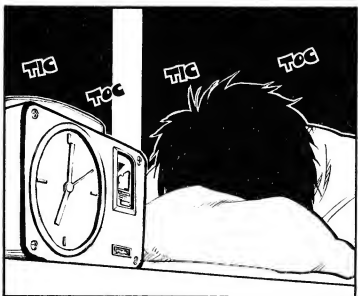
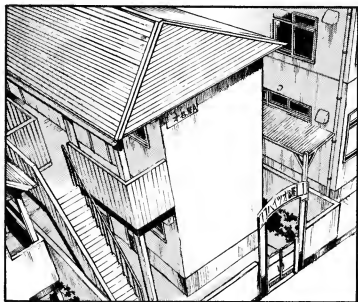
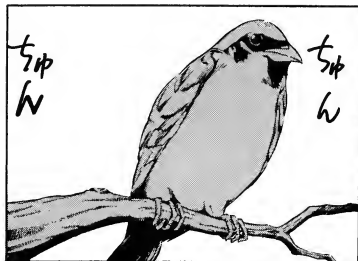
THIS ISN'T A WAR **CAME!**

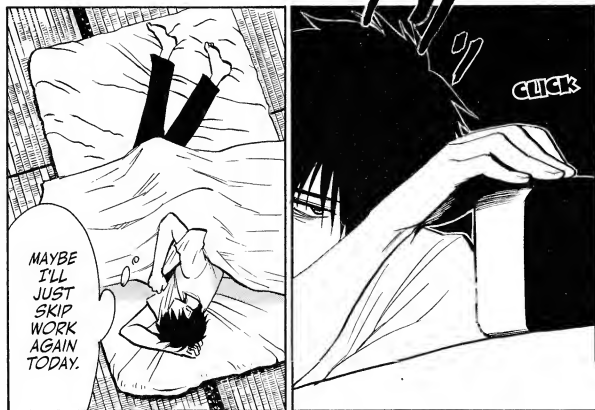
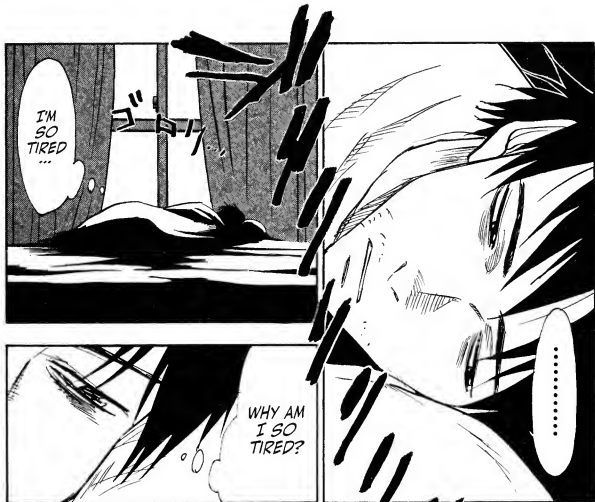


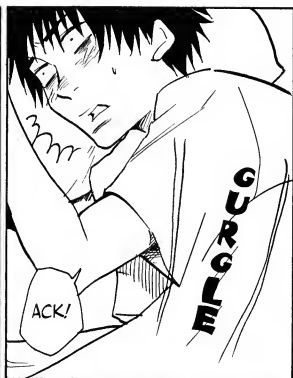
I'VE
GRADUATED
FROM
BEING A
HIKIKOMORI
TO A
PART-TIME
EMPLOYEE.

SIX MONTHS
HAVE
PASSED
SINCE
LEAVING
MITA
HOUSE...

Chapter 39 Welcome to the ATTIC!

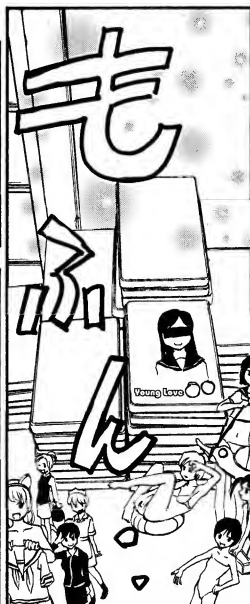


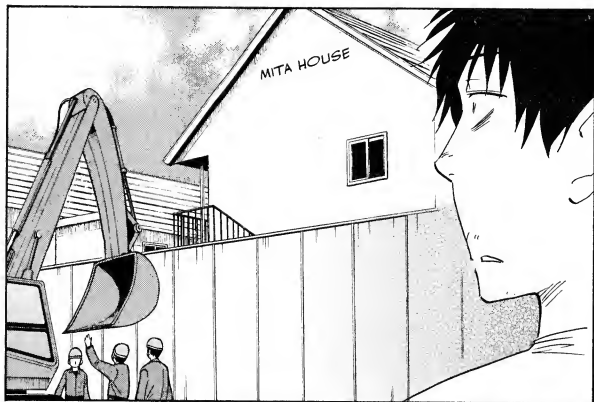


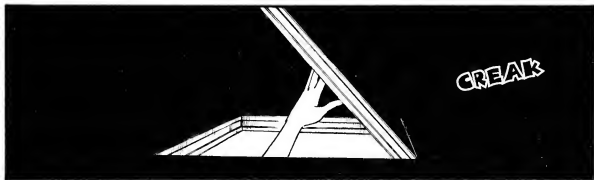














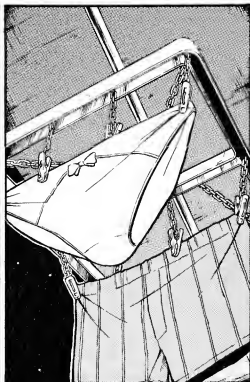
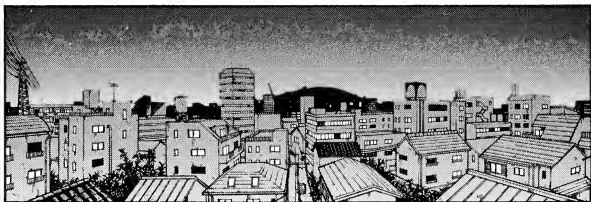


WE NEED TO
PROMISE TO
TAKE GOOD
CARE OF
THESE. WE'LL
HIDE THEM IN
THE ATTIC SO
THEY DON'T
GET LOST.



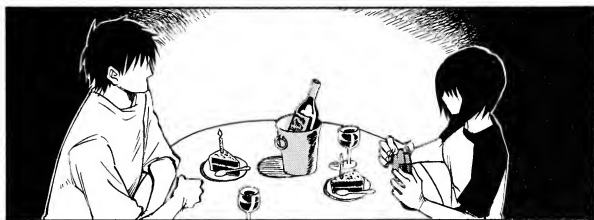
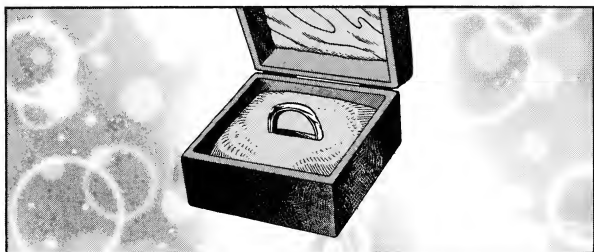
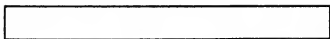


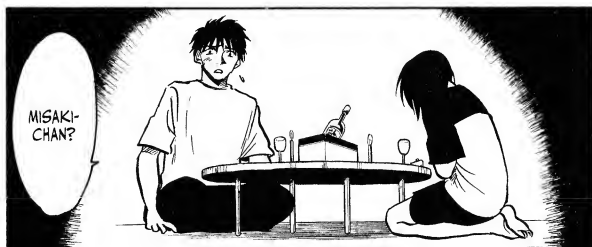


















...I'D FORGOTTEN HOW
TO FEEL ANYTHING.

...I FELT NEITHER
ANGRY NOR SAD. IT
WAS ALMOST LIKE...

AT THAT MOMENT...



I GUESS
I NEVER
REALLY
LOVED HER
AFTER ALL.



...AND
THAT'S
WHY--

SHE SAW
RIGHT
THROUGH
ME...



NO. YOU'RE
WRONG.







WOW!
AWESOME...!



WAIT, BUT--!
YOU HAVE TO
GET OUT OF
HERE BEFORE
THEY TEAR THE
PLACE DOWN!



I DON'T
KNOW, BUT
I CAN'T
STAND
BEING
AT HOME
ANYMORE!

I'M GOING
TO STAY
HERE
FOREVER!
ALONE!



AND NOW
I'M TOO
AFRAID
TO WALK
OUTSIDE
AGAIN.



MY PROJECT
FAILED...



FORGET ABOUT
THE PROJECT
OR WHATEVER!
LET IT END!

T-THEN I'LL
HELP YOU
THROUGH
THIS!



I DON'T
HATE YOU!
I LOVE
YOU!



YOU
ALREADY
HATE ME,
SO I CAN'T!



YES! I
LOVE YOU
WITH ALL
MY HEART!

REALLY?



THEN,
LET'S
GET--!



I'M HAPPY.
THANK YOU.
I'M SO
HAPPY NOW.



...WAS THE
GOAL
OF THE
PROJECT
ALL ALONG!



BUT
THROWING
AWAY THAT
HAPPINESS

...



BUT I
COULDN'T
HELP
WANTING
IT AGAIN.

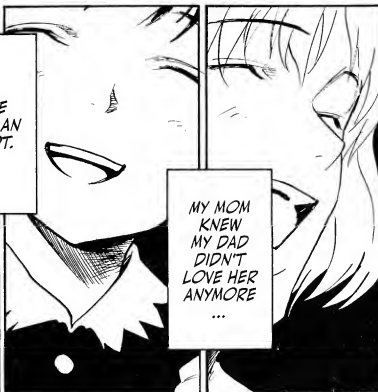
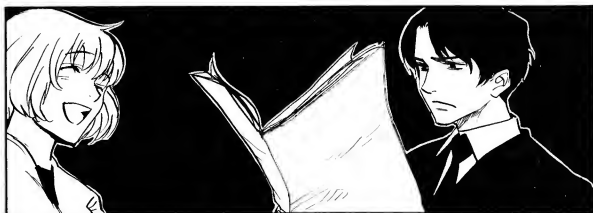
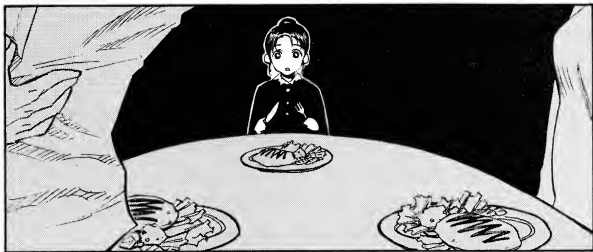


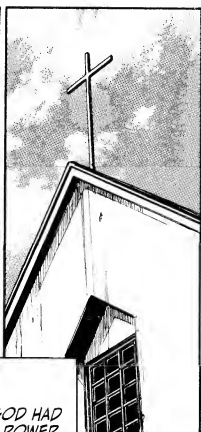
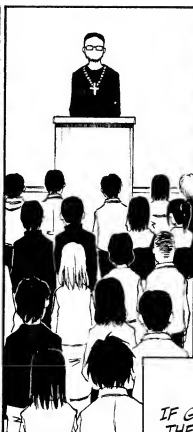
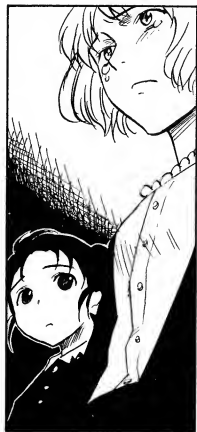
THE
TRUTH
IS...



I COULD
NEVER
THROW
IT AWAY.

THAT'S
WHY I'M A
FAILURE.





IF GOD HAD
THE POWER
TO CREATE
THIS WORLD
AND WE
PRAY TO HIM
FOR HELP...

...THEN IT
MUST BE
GOD'S
FAULT WHEN
WE AREN'T
LOVED.

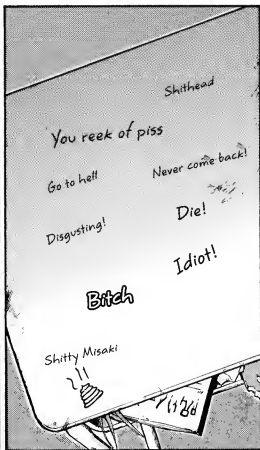




AND IT IS
GOD'S
FAULT
THAT
I WAS
HATED...



...BY
EVERY-
ONE.



Shithead
You reek of piss
Go to hell
Never come back!
Disgusting!
Die!
Idiot!

Bitch

Shitty Misaki





No good!
No good!

I WAS
ALWAYS
ALONE.



I HATE
BEING MADE
FUN OF.



BEING
ALONE IS
SO SAD...



THEN IF
I EVER
FIND THE
ULTIMATE
HAPPINESS
...

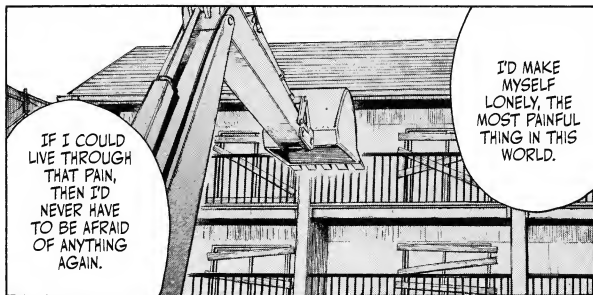


I'LL LOVE
YOU. SO
PLEASE...



...I'LL BE
THE ONE
TO THROW
IT AWAY.

...BE MY
SLAVE.





HOW COULD
I HAVE EVER
SAID
I DIDN'T
FEEL
ANYTHING
WHEN YOU
LEFT?



THAT WAS
BULLSHIT.



I'M SO
SCARED
OF BEING
HATED
AND YOU
HATE ME
BECAUSE
I LIED!

BUT
LOOK
HOW WEAK
I REALLY
AM.
I STILL
PICKED
UP THE
RING.





DAMN
YOU,
YOU
LYING
BITCH!

ARRRGH!



I REALLY
DO L-L-LO...

THAT'S
NOT TRUE
AT ALL! I--



I'M
ACTUALLY
PRETTY
GOOD
AT IT. HA
HA HA...

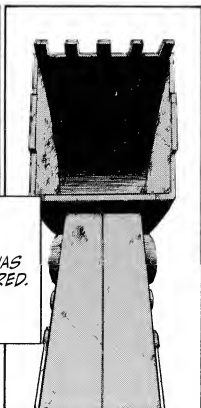
...LOVE
SKATING!
DON'T
YOU?

WHEN I'M
SCARED,
I ALWAYS
RUN AWAY.

Welcome to the ATTICI



I WAS
SCARED.





I'M A
LIAR.

THUD

THUD

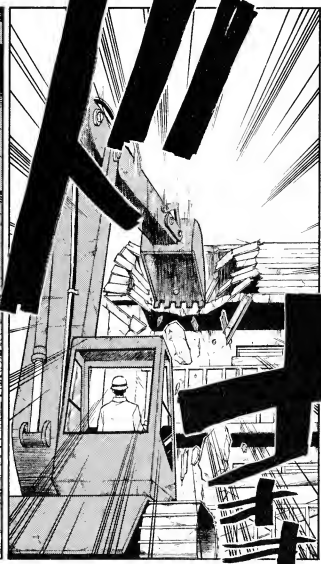
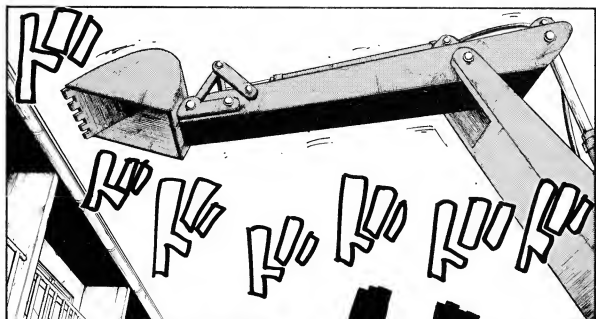
THAT'S
WHY YOU
HATE ME,
RIGHT?

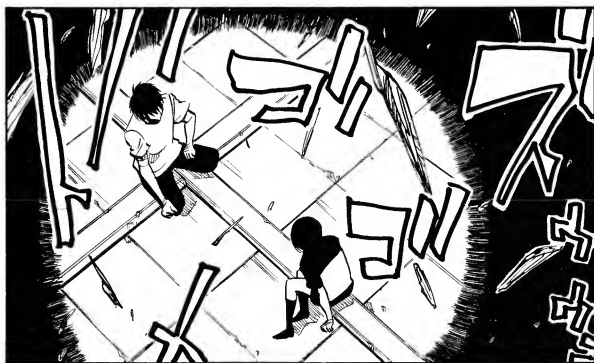
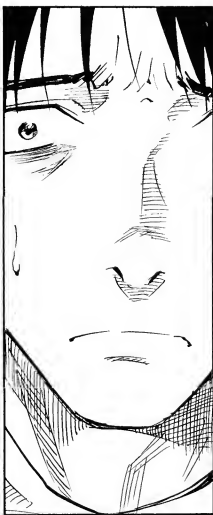
THUD

THUD

Chapter 40 Welcome to the N.H.K.!











THAT WILL
COMPLETE
YOUR
PROJECT,
RIGHT?



LEAVE
ME AND
BECOME
STRONGER.

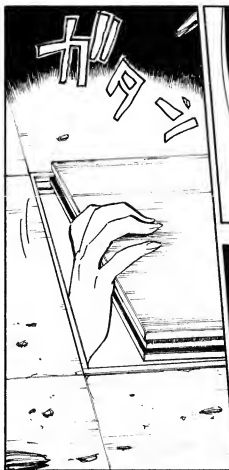
AND NOW
THAT YOU
KNOW THAT,
GO...

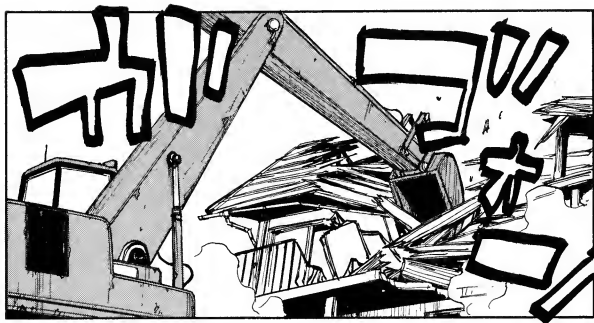


YOU CAN
STILL HAVE
A GOOD
LIFE!

GO!

THEN
HURRY UP
AND GO!





AND AFTER ALL THOSE TIMES I
RAN AWAY FROM EVERYTHING.

NOT A BAD
ENDING, HUH?

THIS
IS THE
BEST
ENDING
I COULD
HAVE
ASKED
FOR.

IN THE
END...

...I WAS
FINALLY
ABLE
TO HELP
YOU.



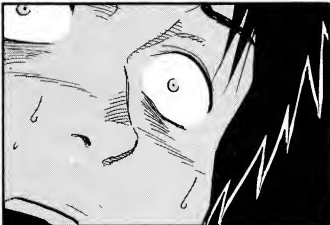




YOU DON'T
LOVE ME,
SATOU-KUN.



...BECAUSE
I STILL
CAN'T
JUST LET
YOU GO.



BUT IT'S
OKAY...

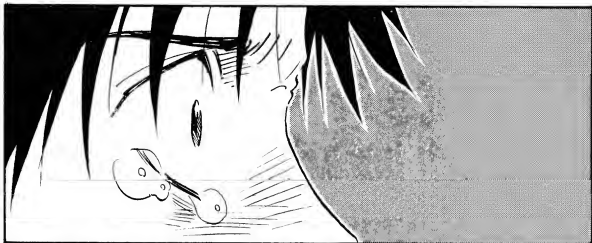


AW,
NOT
THAT
AGAIN.

MY PROGRAM
REALLY WAS
A FAILURE.

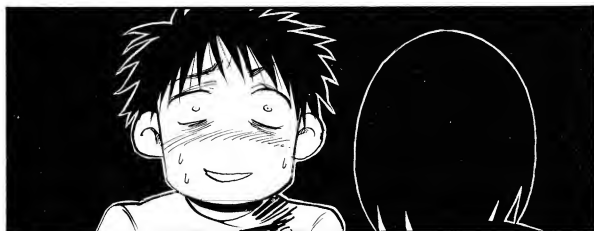
SEE?

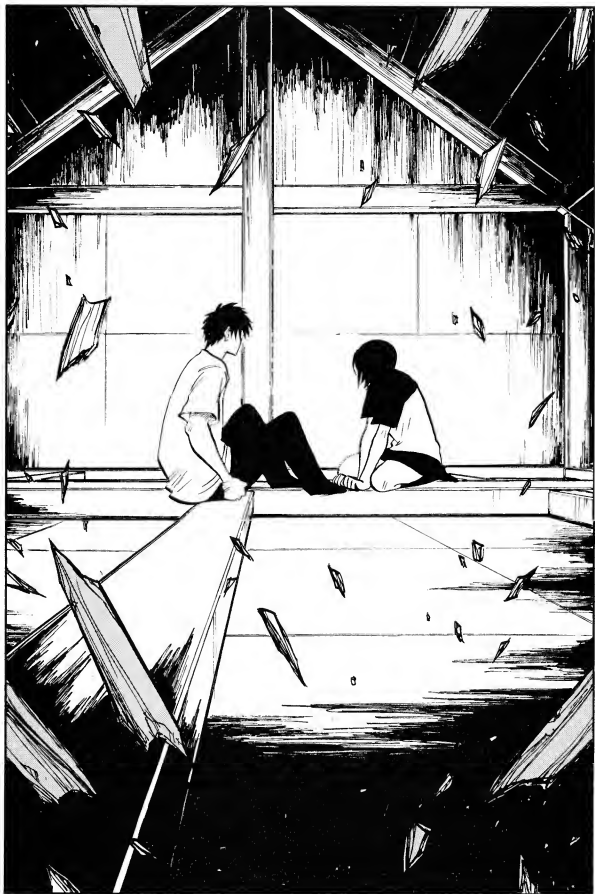




...BEING
BY MY
SIDE.











I HATE
YOU!!

LO!!

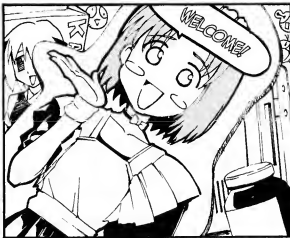
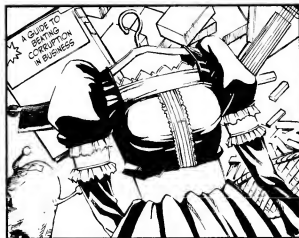


ME TOO!
ME TOO!

I HATE YOU
TOO! YOU
STUPID PIECE
OF TRASH!









YES! ME
TOO! SO
DO I!



I--



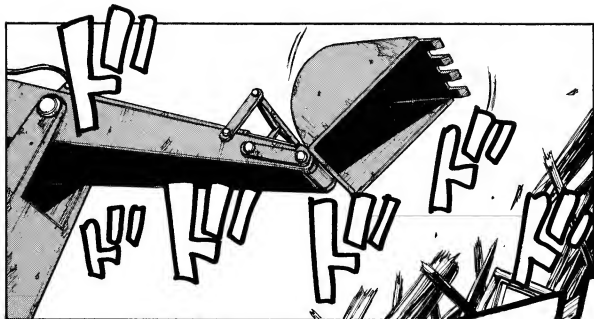
I HATE
LIARS
LIKE
YOU!!



YES!
YES!
YES!



WE'RE
FINALLY ON
THE SAME
PAGE ABOUT
SOMETHING!





IF THE
UNIVERSE
WERE A
VILLAGE
OF ONE
HUNDRED
PEOPLE,
WE'D
BE THE
CUTEST
COUPLE!

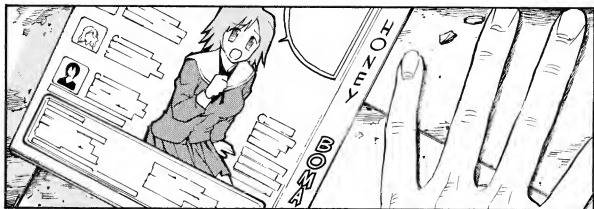


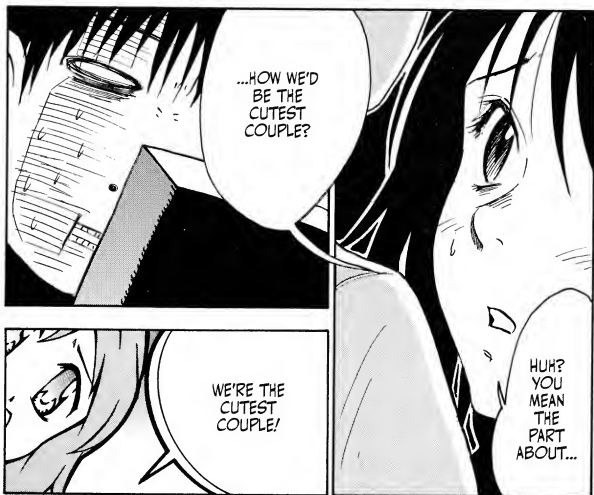
BUT WE
HAVE
NOTHING
TO FEAR
ANYMORE!

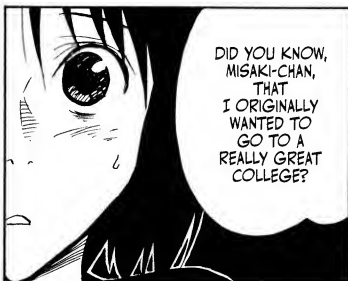


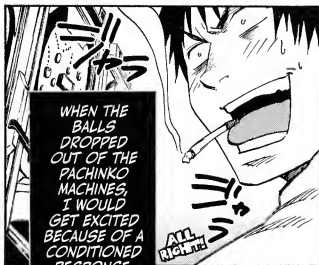
I'LL NEVER
LEAVE YOU
AGAIN!

YES!!









WHEN THE BALLS DROPPED OUT OF THE PACHINKO MACHINES, I WOULD GET EXCITED BECAUSE OF A CONDITIONED RESPONSE.

ALL RIGHT



Ami-chan,
I love you!

AND THE HEROINES IN HENTAI GAMES WERE ALWAYS SO BEAUTIFUL AND PURE. I COULDN'T HELP BUT FALL IN LOVE WITH THEM.



ALL OF MY DESIRES AND BELIEFS WERE BEING CONTROLLED.



BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WAS DROWNING IN THOUGHTS OF NEEDING TO BE A MODEL WORKER.

BUT NOTHING WORKED OUT, SO I STARTED TO CLOSE MYSELF OFF.







EVERYTHING
THAT IS
ANYTHING...



THE N.H.K.
CONSPIRACY
THAT
CONTROLS
ME!

...IS
BECAUSE
OF THE
CONSPIRACY
THAT
CONTROLS
ME!



BECAUSE
I'M--

THAT'S
WHY I MUST
FIGHT!



I--!

THAT'S
RIGHT!
I--!

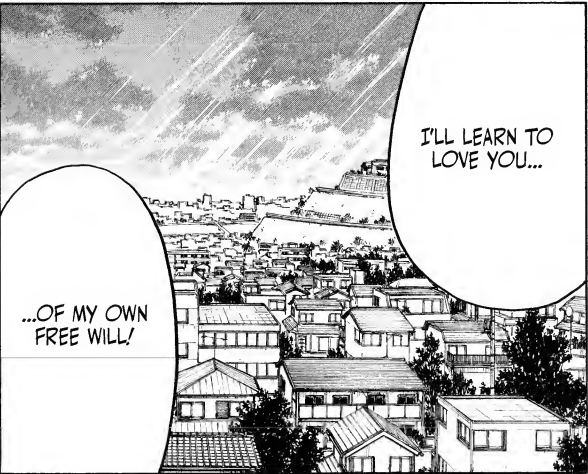
I'M A
BRAVE
WARRIOR!







I'LL
LEARN TO
LOVE YOU.



...OF MY OWN
FREE WILL!

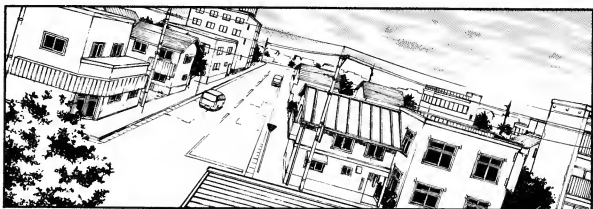
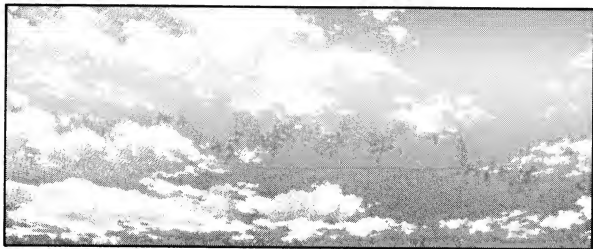
I'LL LEARN TO
LOVE YOU...



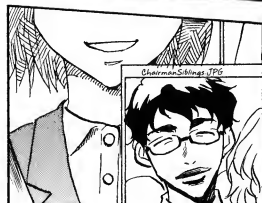
YOUR PERSONALITY
OR LOOKS OR WHAT
I THINK OF YOU
DOESN'T MATTER.
NONE OF IT MATTERS
ANYMORE! THIS TIME,
I SWEAR I'LL...

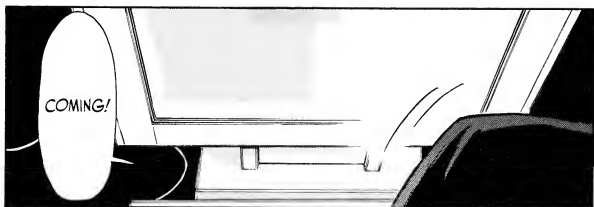






IT'S BEEN
SIX MONTHS
SINCE THEN.





But I still won't give up!

**Because I am a true warrior who
must fight the conspiracy!**

Welcome to the N.H.K.!

End



Welcome to the N.H.K.

#40 Welcome to the N.H.K.!

**All Episodes are over.
Thank you and good-bye...really?**

POSTSCRIPT

IT WAS THE SUMMER OF 2001 WHEN I FIRST STARTED WRITING THE NOVEL THAT BECAME THE SOURCE MATERIAL FOR THIS MANGA. I TOOK A LOT OF POPULAR CATCH PHRASES, LIKE HIKIKOMORI, THAT WERE AROUND AT THE TIME, AND TRIED TO PUT IN AS MUCH OF IT INTO THE BOOK TO MAKE IT FUN. I THOUGHT IT'D BE A FUN WAY TO DRAW READERS IN. WHAT MADE THE BOOK FUN WAS THAT, EVEN THOUGH THE PROTAGONIST WAS A HIKIKOMORI AND A BAD PERSON, HE WAS STILL A HERO THAT A LOT OF READERS COULD RELATE TO. BUT THE MORE REALISTICALLY YOU WRITE ABOUT A HIKIKOMORI, THE MORE YOU LOSE THE IMAGE OF A HERO. DESPITE THAT, I HOPE I WAS ABLE TO PULL OFF THE CONTRADICTION OF A HIKIKOMORI HERO IN THE END. BACK THEN, I SPENT A GOOD TWO OR THREE WEEKS STRAIGHT WORRYING ABOUT IT ON MY FUTON. SUDDENLY, A SCENE OF YAMAZAKI AND SATOU SNAPPING PEEPING SHOTS OF GRADE SCHOOLERS FLASHED BEFORE MY EYES. I'D FOUND MY SUFFERING HERO, CRYING AND DISGUSTED AT HIMSELF WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY GETTING OFF ON THE PHOTOS. WITH THAT VIVID IMAGE IN MY HEAD, THE IMAGES OF YAMAZAKI AND MISAKI GRADUALLY BEGAN TO TAKE SHAPE. INSTEAD OF WRITING IT IN THE FIRST-PERSON, I REALIZED THAT IF I WENT WITH A DISTINCTLY FUN STYLE, THE BOOK WOULD BE PERFECT! THAT'S PRECISELY WHAT I KEPT IN MIND AS I BEGAN TO WRITE. HOWEVER, I SOON REALIZED A FLAW IN MY IDEA. I BEGAN TO FEEL REGRET AND SHAME. THE MANGA VERSION WAS STARTING SOON, SO I REALLY WANTED TO SUCCEED WITH THAT CAREFREE STYLE IN THE MANGA. SATOU AND MISAKI AND YAMAZAKI WERE ALL TURNING OUT SO COOL! KEEPING THAT IN MIND, I CONTINUED WRITING OUT THE PLOT FOR THE MANGA BIT BY BIT. I ALSO HAD THE HELPFUL ADVICE OF MY EDITOR, MINO-SAN, AND THE UNYIELDING MANGA SKILLS OF OIWA-SAN. SO MANY PEOPLE HELPED MAKE THIS MANGA A SUCCESS. WE WERE LIKE ACROBATS DOING SOMERSAULTS ON THE TIGHT-ROPE, MIRACULOUSLY PULLING OFF GAG AFTER GAG THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE IMPOSSIBLE TO DO. BUT...I'M SURE WE ALL FELL AT SOME POINT. THE FINAL MESSAGE WE WERE TRYING TO GET ACROSS WAS HOW A PERSON'S WILL CAN CHANGE THEM. I WANTED THAT TO BE THE MESSAGE AND TO MAKE IT DIRECT. I HAD SO MANY GOOD MEMORIES.

I NEED TO BOW MY HEAD AND THANK EVERYONE. I FEEL EXTREME SHAME IN MY HEART THAT I NEEDED TO RELY ON EVERYONE SO MUCH, BUT I'M ALSO INFINITELY GRATEFUL FOR EVERYONE'S HELP. EVEN IF WE DID SLIP AT SOME POINT, AND THAT WAS ENTIRELY MY FAULT, WE NEVER RAN OUT OF HAPPY MEMORIES. WHENEVER I CLOSE MY EYES NOW, I CAN SEE SATOU, YAMAZAKI AND MISAKI'S SMILES. ONLY GOOD MEMORIES. THAT'S WHY I WRITE THESE WORDS OF THANKS AND I'D LIKE TO WRAP THIS UP WITH A THANK YOU SECTION. BELOW ARE MY FINAL THANKS.

UMMM, TO EVERYONE INVOLVED IN THIS--EVERYONE WHO HELPED MAKE SUCH A BRILLIANT, GENIUS AND CREATIVE WORK. IT WAS ALL THANKS TO YOU THAT I KEPT GOING. THANK YOU VERY MUCH AND JOB WELL DONE. ABOVE ALL, HOWEVER, I'D LIKE TO THANK MY READERS. THANK YOU FOR READING THROUGH THE ENTIRE SERIES. I'M CONFIDENT IT IS A PRETTY DARN ENTERTAINING MANGA. COULDN'T HAVE BEEN BETTER! SATOU AND MISAKI AND YAMAZAKI WERE ALL SO CUTE!

RIGHT?

"....."

REALLY, I THANK YOU ALL FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART. IF I FIND OUT THAT THIS MANGA'S STORY CREEPS INTO YOUR MIND WHEN YOU'RE NOT THINKING OF ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR, I COULDN'T BE HAPPIER. THANK YOU ALL.

JUNE 19, 2007
TATSUHIKO
TAKIMOTO

